

Message Text

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43

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SSO-00 /012 W

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O 091530Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6715

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL KADUNA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, NI (AGBESE, DAN)

SUBJECT: FOREIGN STUDENT PROGRAM: TRAVEL ONLY GRANT

REF: (A) STATE 220129-C (B) ANDEREGG/BROWN TELCON 9/9

1. KADUNA REPORTS AGBESE PLANS ARRIVE U.S. SEPTEMBER 11 ON VISITOR'S VISA ISSUED BY CONSULATE WITH PROVISIO INS CHECK WITH COLUMBIA TO CONFIRM ADMISSION.

2. RATIONALE FOR THIS COURSE IS AGBESE, ONCE THERE, COULD WORK OUT PAYMENT PROBLEM AND REGULARIZE STUDENT STATUS. UNCERTAIN WHETHER AGBESE WILL BE PREPARED PAY TUITION ADVANCE ON ARRIVAL. NORMAL PRACTICE IS FOR GOVERNMENT TO FORWARD FUNDS TO NIGERIAN CONSULATE.

3. COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES MAY PREVENT POST FROM CONTACTING AGBESE IN TIME TO POSTPONE DEPARTURE UNTIL FEES PAYMENT EFFECTED.

4. IN VIEW REFTTEL, POST HOPES COLUMBIA WILL CONFIRM ITS INTENTION TO ADMIT AGBESE SHOULD INS CONTACT SCHOOL. OTHERWISE STUDENT WOULD FACE DETENTION AND/OR REFUSAL ENTRY ON VISITOR'S VISA, AN UNFORTUNATE SITUATION WHICH POST HOPES CAN BE AVOIDED. NEEDLESS TO SAY AGBESE IS MATURE, EXPERIENCED NEWSPAPER EDITOR WHO HAS VISITED U.S. BEFORE. UPON HIS RETURN TO NIGERIA HE CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE INCREASINGLY INFLUENTIAL OPION LEADER. ALTHOUGH OGUNSANWO'S ALLEGED ACTIONS WERE REPREHENSIBLE AND COLUMBIA'S

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REACTION UNDERSTANDABLE, POST HAS NO REASON TO SUSPECT SIMILAR

INTENTIONS ON AGBESE'S PART.

5. NEW FACTOR IS DISCOVERY THAT BENUE STATE SCHOLARSHIP MAY INCLUDE TRAVEL, THUS OBVIATING NEED FOR TRAVEL AWARD. POST WILL CONFIRM.

6. POST HOPES DEPARTMENT WILL CONVEY ABOVE TO COLUMBIA AS APPROPRIATE AND PERSUADE SCHOOL NOT TO TREAT AGBESE AS YOUNG STUDENT BUT AS ESTABLISHED PROFESSIONAL.

7. ADVISE.
EASUM

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